HB 1084 -- SULFUR DIOXIDE AIR QUALITY MONITORING

SPONSOR: Miller

This bill requires owners of an electric generating unit in Jefferson County to develop an ambient air quality monitoring or modeling network to characterize the sulfur dioxide air quality surrounding the unit. The network must operate for at least 12 consecutive months. The owner of the unit must notify the Department of Natural Resources of the manner that will be used to characterize the air quality around the unit by December 1, 2015, and if the owner elects to use monitoring they will be consulted by the Department.

The bill also requires the Department of Natural Resources to consider all ambient air quality monitoring network data collected by any owner of an electric generating unit prior to proposing to the Air Conservation Commission any sulfur dioxide limitation. The Department of Natural Resources may not establish any sulfur dioxide emission limitation that does not reflect consideration of the ambient air quality monitoring network data collected under these requirements. Nothing prohibits the department from entering into an agreement with an owner of an electric generating unit to limit or reduce sulfur dioxide emissions. To the extent that any court finds that the federal 1-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standards is invalid, the corresponding state standard will be stayed until the rule is re-established as final and effective.